

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 27-41 are currently pending in this application. Claims 42 and 43 have been newly added by this reply. Claims 27 and 28 are independent. The remaining claims depend from claims 27 or 28.

Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate whether the drawings filed on July 24, 2000, are accepted.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 27 and 28 have been amended to recite a naming convention used to differentiate between partial results stored in the same properties object. In particular, the handler objects that create and store partial results associated the partial results themselves, such that it is easy to know which handler object created which partial result. Because all the partial results are stored in one properties object, the naming convention described above avoids name collisions that may occur if multiple partial results created by different handler objects are stored with the same name or if one handler object stores several partial results with the same name. Accordingly, the independent claims have been amended to recite that the interior node handler objects modify the name of the partial results that the handler objects store into the properties object. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, on page 17 of the Specification.

Further, newly added claims 42 and 43 depend from independent claim 27. No new subject matter is added by way of the newly added claims as support for these claims may be found on page 17 of the Specification.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 1 has been amended to change the phrase “the request object” to “a request object” to correct antecedent basis issues according to the Examiner’s suggestions. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 27-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2002/00332783 (“Tuatini”) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2005/0050164 (“Burd”). To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness “...the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.” (See MPEP §2143.03). Further, “all words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art.” (See MPEP §2143.03). The Applicant respectfully asserts that the references, when combined, fail to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of amended independent claims 27 and 28.

With respect to the rejection of the claims, the Examiner admits that Tuatini fails to disclose or suggest storing the first and second partial result in a properties object (*see* Office Action mailed September 30, 2005, page 4). In fact, Tuatini is completely silent with respect to

storing any of the preprocessing results of the action filters. In addition, it follows that Tuatini fails to disclose or suggest using naming convention to avoid name collisions when multiple partial results associated with one or more handler objects are stored in the same properties object.

However, the Examiner relies on Burd to disclose this limitation. However, the cited portion of Burd discloses examples of public properties, such as “ID,” “Visible,” and “MaintainState.” These properties are Boolean values that indicate whether some event should be performed with respect to the client-side user interface (*see* Burd, paragraph [0100]). However, Burd fails to disclose or suggest anything about storing partial results in the public properties that are mentioned. In fact, the public properties disclosed in Burd are *Boolean* values (*i.e.*, true, false, etc.), and thus by definition cannot store any partial results of a request message being serviced by handler objects because processing a request message does not simply result in Boolean values.

Moreover, Burd fails to disclose or suggest that a naming convention is used when a partial result is stored in a properties object, such that the name of the partial result is modified by the handler object that created the partial result to associate the partial result with that handler object, as recited in amended claims 27 and 28. In fact, because Burd discloses that the properties are Boolean values, it does not make sense that multiple handler objects may be storing different partial results in each of the public properties disclosed in Burd. Thus, it follows that no naming convention would be necessary or contemplated in Burd.

In view of the above, it is clear that Tuatini and Burd, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to render amended independent claims 27 and 28 as obvious. Thus, amended independent claims 27 and 28 are patentable over Tuatini and Burd. Dependent claims

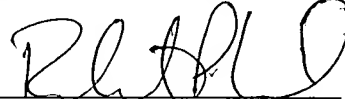
29-43 are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 16159.142001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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